

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/648,790

Examiner

MAIKHANH NGUYEN

Applicant(s)

EASTER ET AL.

Art Unit

2176

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the RCE filed 11/20/2009 and the telephonic interview on 12/02/09.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 6-11, 15-33, 47, and 48 (now renumbered as Claims 1-31).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20091202.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/Laurie Ries/
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2100
3 December 2009

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to the Request for Continued Examination filed 11/20/2009 and the telephonic interview on 12/02/2009.

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 15-33, 47, and 48 are currently pending. Claims 1, 21, 22, and 33 are independent Claims.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed 11/20/2009 has been entered.

3. **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT:**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Tiffany Brooks (Reg. No. 57,912) on 12/02/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer-implemented~~ In a computer system, a method for providing interactive assistance with populating an automated document that includes at least one field, the computer system comprising a processor, a data repository, and a user interface, the method comprising:

selecting, via the processor, an entity to which the automated document applies;

assigning, via the processor, a prioritization to each of the at least one field, the prioritization stored in the data repository;

prompting, via the user interface, for a response for each of the at least one field, the prompting varying based on the prioritization of each of the at least one field;

varying, via the processor, a color of each of the at least one field based on the prioritization;

performing, via the processor, a compliance check of each response for the at least one field to determine if the response complies with predetermined legal requirements, wherein a validation rule triggers the compliance check to occur as the response for the at least one field is being entered;

iteratively revising, via the processor, the prioritization of all of the at least one field upon receiving the response to each of the at least one field;

prompting varying based on the iteratively revised prioritization of all of the at least one field; [[and]]

identifying data from an accessible repository responsive to any of the at least one field of the automated document;

automatically populating each of the at least one field of the automated document for which the responsive data from the accessible repository are identified;

highlighting each of the at least one field containing automatic populating; and

displaying, via the user interface, the populated automated document.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the populated automated document is a form.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the form is used for compliance with educational requirements.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the educational requirements include requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined legal requirements are legal requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
if the compliance check passes, providing an option to lock the automated document.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

receiving a selection of a response to the option to lock the populated automated document; and

if the selection is to lock the populated automated document, preventing revision of each of the responses to the at least one field.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
prompting a user for security information.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the entity is an individual.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
storing the automated document with the response to each of the at least one field.

12-14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein prompting for a response to each of the at least one field is selected from a group consisting of prompting for a required response, and prompting for an optional response.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein selecting an entity to which the automated document applies includes:

searching ~~[[a]]~~ the data repository containing at least one entity.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
providing an option to select the automated document form a plurality of documents.
18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising:
generating the plurality of documents via a search.
19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the automated document is associating with a meeting.
20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the meeting includes at least one event.
21. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer implemented~~ computer system for providing interactive assistance with populating a ~~customized~~ automated document that includes at least one field, the computer system comprising a processor, a data repository, and a user interface, the computer system further comprising:
means for, via the processor, selecting an entity to which the automated document applies;

means for, via the processor, assigning a prioritization to each of the at least one field, the prioritization stored in the data repository;

means for prompting, via the user interface, for a response for each of the at least one field, the prompting varying based on the prioritization of each of the at least one field;

means for varying, via the processor, a color of each of the at least one field based on the prioritization;

means for performing, via the processor, a compliance check of each response for the at least one field to determine if the response complies with predetermined legal requirements, wherein a validation rule triggers the compliance check to occur as the response for the at least one field is being entered;

means for iteratively revising, via the processor, the prioritization of all of the at least one field upon receiving the response to each of the at least one field;

means for prompting, via the user interface, for a response to at least one field, the prompting varying based on the iteratively revised prioritization of all of the at least one field; [[and]]

means for identifying data from an accessible repository responsive to any of the at least one field of the automated document;

means for automatically populating each of the at least one field of the automated document for which the responsive data from the accessible repository are identified;

means for highlighting each of the at least one field containing automatic populating; and

means for displaying, via the user interface, the populated automated document.

22. (Currently Amended) A system for providing interactive assistance with populating a ~~customized~~ automated document that includes at least one field, the system comprising:

a processor;

a user interface functioning via the processor; and

a repository accessible by the processor;

wherein an entity to which the automated document applies is selected by the processor;

wherein a prioritization to each of the at least one field is assigned, the prioritization stored in the data repository;

wherein a response for each of the at least one field is prompted for, the prompting varying based on the prioritization of each of the at least one field;

wherein a color of each of the at least one field varies based on the prioritization;

wherein the response for each of the at least one field is checked for compliance with predetermined legal requirements;

wherein a validation rule triggers the compliance check to occur as the response for the at least one field is being entered;

wherein the prioritization of all of the at least one field is iteratively revised upon receiving the response to each of the at least one field; [[and]]

wherein data from an accessible repository responsive to any of the at least one field of the automated document is identified;

wherein each of the at least one field of the automated document is automatically populated for which the responsive data from the accessible repository are identified;

wherein each of the at least one field containing automatic populating is highlighted; and

wherein the populated automated document is displayed.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the processor is housed on a terminal.
24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the terminal is selected from a group consisting of a personal computer, a minicomputer, a main frame computer, a microcomputer, a hand held device, and a telephonic device.
25. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the processor is housed on a server.
26. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the server is selected from a group consisting of a personal computer, a minicomputer, a microcomputer, and a main frame computer.
27. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the server is coupled to a network.

28. (Original) The system of claim 27, wherein the network is the Internet.
29. (Original) The system of claim 27, wherein the server is coupled to the network via a coupling.
30. (Original) The system of claim 29, wherein the coupling is selected from a group consisting of a wired connection, a wireless connection, and a fiberoptic connection.
31. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the repository is housed on a server.
32. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the server is coupled to a network.
33. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable storage medium having control logic stored therein for causing a computer to provide interactive assistance with populating an automated document that includes at least one field, the control logic comprising:
- first computer readable program code means for selecting an entity to which the automated document applies;
- second computer readable program code means for assigning a prioritization to each of the at least one field;

third computer readable program code means for prompting for a response for each of the at least one field, the prompting varying based on the prioritization of each of the at least one field, wherein a color of each of the at least one field varies based on the prioritization;

fourth computer readable program code means for performing a compliance check of each response for the at least one field, wherein a validation rule triggers the compliance check to occur as the response for the at least one field is being entered;

fifth computer readable program code means for iteratively revising the prioritization of all of the at least one field upon receiving the response to each of the at least one field; [[and]]

sixth computer readable program code means for identifying data from an accessible repository responsive to any of the at least one field of the automated document;

seventh computer readable program code means for automatically populating each of the at least one field of the automated document for which the responsive data from the accessible repository are identified;

eighth computer readable program code means for highlighting each of the at least one field containing automatic populating; and

[[sixth]] ninth computer readable program code means for displaying the populated automated document.

47. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 21, wherein the predetermined legal requirements are legal requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

48. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, wherein the predetermined legal requirements are legal requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

4. **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE:**

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 15-33, 47, and 48 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Interpreting the claims in light of the specification, Examiner finds the claimed invention is patentably distinct from the prior art of record.

The prior art does not expressly teach or render obvious the invention as recited in independent Claims 1, 21, 22, and 33.

The features as recited in independent Claims 1, 21, 22, and 33 “*a compliance check of each response for the at least one field to determine if the response complies*

with predetermined legal requirements, wherein a validation rule triggers the compliance check to occur as the response for the at least one field is being entered; identifying data from an accessible repository responsive to any of the at least one field of the automated document; automatically populating each of the at least one field of the automated document for which the responsive data from the accessible repository are identified; highlighting each of the at least one field containing automatic populating” when taken in the context of the Claims as a whole, were not uncovered in the prior art teachings

The Examiner asserts that the claims overcome the prior art of record when the limitations are read in combination with the respective claimed limitations in their entirety.

Dependent claims are allowed as they depend upon allowable independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Contact information

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maikhanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272- 4093. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00am – 30 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached at (571) 272-4137.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Maikhanh Nguyen/

Examiner, Art Unit 2176

/Laurie Ries/
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2100
3 December 2009